Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 05297 051407Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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O O 051401Z APR 78 ZFF 4

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4806

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH US UK

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: GRAHAM/LOW MISSION

REF: LUSAKA 1160 (NOTAL)

- 1. JOHNNY GRAHAM CALLED, AFTER CONSULTING WITH DR. OWEN, TO ASK US TO PUT URGENTLY TO DEPARTMENT SUGGESTION THAT HE AND LOW GO FIRST TO SALISBURY FOR TALKS THERE ON APRIL 7 AND 8, THENCE ON TO MAPUTO OR LUSAKA TO MEET NKOMO AND MUGABE ON APRIL 9 OR 10.
- 2. REASONS FOR THIS SUGGESTION ARE:

(A) IT APPEARS IMPOSSIBLE TO MEET PF LEADERS IN MAPUTO APRIL 6 SINCE: (I) MUGABE IS NOW AT HEATHROW AIRPORT, FLYING TONIGHT (APRIL 5) TO ROME, THENCE ON CONFIDENTIAL

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TO MAPUTO (BRITISH UNAWARE OF HIS EXACT FLIGHT PLANS AND ETA MAPUTO -- EMBASSY NOTES BEST SCHEDULED CONNECTION WOULD ENABLE ARRIVAL MAPUTO APRIL 6 AT 10:50 A.M.) (II) AT BEST, GRAHAM COULD DEPART LONDON TONIGHT TO ARRIVE JOHANNESBURG TOMORROW 11:00 A.M., THENCE ON TO MAPUTO BY USDAO PLANE, BUT GRAHAM RELUCTANT TO GO INTO MEETINGS SO SOON AFTER ARDUOUS TRAVEL; (III) NKOMO AND

MUGABE APPEAR OUT OF TOUCH WITH ONE ANOTHER AND THEREFORE IT IS UNLIKELY MEETING COULD BE LAID ON FOR APRIL 6.

(B) UK/US SUGGESTED APRIL 7/8 DATES TO SALISBURY LEADERS WHICH THEY ACCEPTED; WE MADE NO SUGGESTION THAT TALKS WITH THEM WOULD BE SECOND, AND IF WE NOW DELAYED THEM BECAUSE WE COULDN'T MEET THE PF FIRST, THEY WOULD TAKE THIS AS EXAMPLE OF HOW WE ARE IN PF'S POCKET.

- 3. GRAHAM THEREFORE PROPOSES, SHOULD PARA ONE ITINERARY BE ACCEPTABLE TO USG, TO FLY TONIGHT TO SALISBURY VIA JOHANNESBURG FOR MEETINGS THERE TO BEGIN APRIL 7.
- 4. GRAHAM STRESSES HE NEEDS US DECISION BY $6\!:\!00$ P.M. TODAY AT LATEST.

BREWSTER

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